

We claim:

1 1. A method of *in-situ* cleaning an inductively coupled plasma reaction chamber, the
2 method comprising introducing remotely formed, preselected activated reactant species
3 into the reaction chamber.

1 2. A method of *in-situ* cleaning an inductively coupled plasma reaction chamber, the
2 method comprising introducing gases which contain preselected reactant species into the
3 reaction chamber.

1 3. A method for plasma enhanced fabrication of a semiconductor substrate in an
2 inductively coupled plasma reaction chamber, said chamber having an inside surface, the
3 method comprising the steps of:

4 contacting the substrate with a plasma containing preselected reactant species for
5 a preselected fabrication step;

6 removing the substrate from the reaction chamber after the fabrication step;

7 removing deposited material *in-situ* from the inside surface of the inductively
8 coupled plasma reaction chamber by introducing remotely formed, preselected activated
9 reactant species into the reaction chamber.

1 4. The method of Claim 3 wherein the preselected fabrication step is plasma
2 enhanced sputtering.

1 5. The method of Claim 3 wherein the preselected fabrication step is plasma
2 enhanced etching.

1 6. The method of Claim 3 wherein the preselected fabrication step is plasma
2 enhanced chemical vapor deposition.

1 7. The method of Claim 3 wherein the plasma is a high density plasma.

1 8. A method for plasma enhanced fabrication of a semiconductor substrate in an
2 inductively coupled plasma reaction chamber, said chamber having an inside surface, the
3 method comprising the steps of:
4 contacting the substrate with a plasma containing preselected reactant species for
5 a preselected fabrication step;
6 removing the substrate from the reaction chamber after the fabrication step;
7 removing deposited material *in-situ* from the inside surface of the inductively
8 coupled plasma reaction chamber by introducing gases which contain preselected reactant
9 species into the reaction chamber.

1 9. The method of Claim 8 wherein the preselected fabrication step is plasma
2 enhanced sputtering.

1 10. The method of Claim 8 wherein the preselected fabrication step is plasma
2 enhanced etching.

1 11. The method of Claim 8 wherein the preselected fabrication step is plasma
2 enhanced chemical vapor deposition.

1 12. The method of Claim 8 wherein the plasma is a high density plasma.

1 13. A method for PECVD deposition of metal films on a substrate in an inductively
2 coupled (IC) plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition (PECVD) reactor comprising:
3 placing the substrate in the inductively coupled PECVD reaction chamber having
4 an inside and an outside;
5 maintaining the reaction chamber under vacuum pressure;
6 introducing at least a metal precursor deposition gas into the reaction chamber for
7 metal deposition on the substrate;
8 generating a plasma from the gas within the reaction chamber using a power
9 source inductively coupled to the reaction chamber;
10 removing the substrate from reaction chamber; and
11 *in-situ* removing deposited material from the inside of the chamber to remove any
12 blocking of the inductive power couple to the reaction chamber.

1 14. The method of Claim 13 wherein the plasma generated in the reaction chamber is
2 a high density plasma.

1 15. The method of Claim 13 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber a chemical species generated in a remotely
3 formed plasma for etching the material.

1 16. The method of Claim 13 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber remotely formed activated reactant species for
3 etching the material.

1 17. The method of Claim 13 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber gases for etching the material.

1 18. The method of Claim 13 wherein the vacuum pressure maintained in the reaction
2 chamber is in the range of 1 to 10 mtorr.

1 19. The method of Claim 14 wherein the vacuum pressure maintained in the reaction
2 chamber is in the range of 1 to 10 mtorr.

1 20. The method of Claim 15 wherein the vacuum pressure maintained in the reaction
2 chamber is in the range of 1 to 10 mtorr.

1 21. The method of Claim 16 wherein the vacuum pressure maintained in the reaction
2 chamber is in the range of 1 to 10 mtorr.

1 22. The method of Claim 17 wherein the vacuum pressure maintained in the reaction
2 chamber is in the range of 1 to 10 mtorr.

1 23. A semiconductor device produced by the process comprising the steps of:
2 placing a substrate in an inductively coupled chemical vapor deposition chamber
3 having an inside and an outside;
4 maintaining the chamber under vacuum pressure;
5 introducing a metal precursor deposition gas and a carrier gas into the chamber for
6 metal deposition on the substrate;

7 generating a plasma from the gases in the chamber using a power source
8 inductively coupled to the reaction chamber;
9 removing the substrate from reaction chamber; and
10 *in-situ* removing of deposited material from the inside of the chamber to remove
11 any blocking of the inductive power couple to the reaction chamber.

1 24. The device of Claim 23 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber a chemical species generated in a remotely
3 formed plasma for etching the material.

1 25. The method of Claim 23 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber remotely formed activated reactant species for
3 etching the material.

1 26. The device of Claim 23 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber gases for etching the material.

1 27. A method of forming a metal layer on a semiconductor wafer, using an
2 inductively coupled, plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition chamber, the method
3 comprising the steps of:
4 forming a plasma containing a metal precursor deposition gas; exposing the wafer
5 to the plasma sufficiently to deposit a metal layer thereon; removing the wafer from the
6 chamber and *in-situ* cleaning the chamber to remove any material blocking the inductive
7 couple to the chamber.

1 28. The method of Claim 27 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material from the
2 chamber is accomplished by introducing into the reaction chamber a remotely formed
3 plasma containing chemicals for etching the material.

1 29. The method of Claim 27 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material from the
2 chamber is accomplished by introducing into the reaction chamber gases for etching the
3 material.

1 30. A method of altering a substantially planar surface on a semiconductor wafer,
2 using an inductively coupled, plasma chamber, the method comprising the steps of:
3 forming a plasma containing a reactant conductive material gas; exposing the
4 wafer to the plasma sufficiently to alter a surface layer thereon; removing the wafer from
5 the chamber and *in-situ* cleaning the chamber to remove any material blocking the
6 inductive couple to the chamber.

1 31. The method of Claim 30 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material from the
2 chamber is accomplished by introducing into the reaction chamber a remotely formed
3 plasma containing chemicals for etching the material.

1 32. The method of Claim 30 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material from the
2 chamber is accomplished by introducing into the reaction chamber gases for etching the
3 material.

1 33. A method of making a semiconductor device, comprising the steps of:

2 exposing a substrate to products formed in an inductively coupled plasma chamber
3 through the interaction of a noble gas plasma and a reactant-species-forming compound
4 to alter a metal layer on at least a portion of the substrate, *in-situ* removal of deposited
5 material from the chamber.

1 34. The method of Claim 33 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber a chemical species generated in a remotely
3 formed plasma for etching the material.

1 35. The method of Claim 33 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber remotely formed activated reactant species for
3 etching the material.

1 36. The method of Claim 33 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material from the
2 chamber is accomplished by introducing into the reaction chamber gases for etching the
3 material.

1 37. A method of making a semiconductor device, comprising the steps of:
2 exposing a substrate to products formed in an inductively coupled plasma chamber
3 through the interaction of a noble gas plasma and reactant-species-forming compound to
4 alter a surface on at least a portion of the substrate, *in-situ* removal of deposited material
5 from the chamber.

1 38. The method of Claim 37 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber a chemical species generated in a remotely
3 formed plasma for etching the material.

1 39. The method of Claim 37 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material is accomplished
2 by introducing into the reaction chamber remotely formed activated reactant species for
3 etching the material.

1 40. The method of Claim 37 wherein the *in-situ* removing of material from the
2 chamber is accomplished by introducing into the reaction chamber gases for etching the
3 material.

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